



"THE BEACON"

SEPT. 14, 2014 NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH NEWSLETTER NO. 26

FROM REV. KELLY'S DESK

The message on the phone said only this: "So Rev. Burke, what I want to know is this: did you try the hula hoop?" The caller ID named the person as Unknown. Though I replayed the message many times, the voice remained unrecognizable to me, but then the caller was clearly laughing at the time. Naturally, my first thought was: Allan Parlee. But he is innocent. This time.

You see, the Gleaner ran a photo on Monday, Sept. 1st of a certain 2 ministers in Officer's Square watching a hula hoop "pro". I could leap to an explanation, assuring you all that we were only there to entertain 2 wee ones who were visiting us (remember Lora, the little red-haired cutie in the tutu, and her older sister Molly?) We had heard that the New Brunswick Fine Crafts Festival had a Children's Corner with a clay station, face painting, etc. But the big draw was the aforementioned hula hoop display. A stack of bright and wonderfully embellished hula hoops were a delight to look at. But the engaging expert was not content to let this be a viewer sport. She immediately encouraged us ALL, regardless of age, to "pick the hoop that calls to you!" She then proceeded to lead us through a series of fun tricks. Well, it clearly would have been rude to say no. Besides, she was having such a good time that it was contagious.

I still don't know who left the message on my phone. And that's kind of fun too. Because I like to think that the person – whoever you are! - also understands how pleased God is when we enter into life with joy and adventure. When we do not worry if we get it "just right". When we let ourselves fail, and drop a hoop, or get tangled up, and let ourselves fall over with laughter rather than despair.

Life is full of hardship, and my vocation calls me to walk in it all the time. And that is my holy privilege. But God also calls me to grab hold of joy, and point it out to others whenever I catch a glimpse of it. Sometimes it is watching the antics of a squirrel at a feeder. Or observing you with your grandchildren. And sometimes, sometimes, it is a swirling, gaudy hula hoop handled by yours truly!

In these waning days of still-summer, and into the busy-ness of fall, I wish us all a wonderful measure of pure, unexpected fun!

With love,

Rev Kelly

FROM THE CHAIR OF THE OFFICIAL BOARD

New Maryland United Church was a buzz with excavators, saws, hammers, and cleaners this summer which has resulted in the near completion of our Accessibility Project. The Accessibility Committee deserves a great deal of credit for keeping the project on target with a scheduled completion date to be the end of September. It is with anticipation we await the formal dedication of this project and all the conveniences we will be able to enjoy.

With fall comes a variety of activities as our Sunday morning service resumes to its normal time of 11am, Sunday School begins, fund raisers are organized by our UCW, Men's Club, and Committee of Stewards, and our Outreach resumes. It is so encouraging to see the energy and commitment of our congregation.

Keep Looking Up!

Sue Morrison



THE ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT

It is very hard to comprehend that we are now heading into fall and that means September and all the changes it brings with it. When we headed into the summer we were all talking about the Accessibility project that we as a church were undertaking. It all began in January of 2013, when the present committee comprised of Dorothy Webster, Allen Parlee, David Ward, Jim Merrill, Doug Watson, John St. Pierre and Sheila Penney were asked to form a committee that would continue with the work that had been started, with a view of making our wonderful little church fully accessible.

In the past 20 months we have been very busy dealing with building plans, contractor selection and financing. The congregation has seen the hole dug, the building erected and have been wonderfully surprised and excited at the progress toward our church goal. There is much done and still more to do. The painting and plumbing, the backfill and paving along with the light fixtures and paint colors are all part of the end result. Watching it all happen has been exciting and every step has resulted in learning something new.

I am sure Rev. Kelly could write a book on how to live and work in a church that is under renovation. If you ever wonder how she could do it with such humour and grace, you should visit her present office just to see how much is "stacked" in there. In order to find her phone, you would have to dig under the sheets that are all around trying to protect some of her space. I think she would agree that it really didn't work and it will take weeks to get

everything cleaned again once the move begins. Nevertheless, if you needed to find her, it only took a phone call and she was on her way to wherever you were. Between her and Dorothy, all things were accounted for and I think they have made many new friends with the trades people.

This project has become a labour of love for the entire congregation. It is a joy to see the reaction of people walking through the dust and the plastic to view the new entry and reception area. It brings a smile to each face to know that our wonderful quilting group could meet every day of the week now if they wanted to. It is so heartening to know that those of us who feel this church is not only a part of our spiritual life can also say this building is a big part of our social life; that it means we will continue to have fun times and that everyone can be part of our social times.

Sheila Penney

SUNDAY SCHOOL



We are excited to see the return of Sunday School on Sunday, September 14th. And within another week or so we will have the added fun of moving into our new Sunday School space!

We have a roster of dedicated teachers returning including Brodie, Brooke-Lyn and Sheila Power, Nancy Steeves, Krista Tupling as well as some new faces to join us! We are continuing with 'The Whole People of God' curriculum which worked very well, and also produced very positive feedback from teachers and children alike.

We will be divided into two classes: The pre-schoolers, and the school aged (which tend to be mid to upper elementary grades). If new volunteers come forward, we may be able to subdivide further, but for now we look forward to this set-up and a rewarding and fun year ahead where we explore God's love for us all through Bible stories, games, music, crafts etc.

FROM THE UCW



UCW will be continuing their monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., taking turns in members homes. New members would be very welcome to attend our meetings. Our major fund raiser, a Bridge Luncheon, will be held on Thursday, October 30th from 12 to 3 p.m. at the New Maryland Centre and a table of four can be booked for \$40 by calling Loraine Ward at 455-8208. For more info at any time, call Dorothy Webster, UCW President at 457-9795.



COME JOIN THE FUN
WELCOME BACK SUNDAY
CORN BOIL AND BARBEQUE



Where: New Maryland United Church

When: Sunday, September 21

Time: 11 a.m. for Worship

(Sunday School and a staffed nursery are available during worship.)

A Welcome Back Corn Boil and Barbeque follows the service.

Please stay for hamburgers, hotdogs, hot buttery corn on the cob, and more!

Whether you are a long time member or brand new, whether you have been away for a while or are a regular, come and find the warm welcome that awaits you at New Maryland United Church.

FROM THE MEN'S CLUB



The Men's club would like to invite all men of the congregation to join us for monthly meetings held the first Tuesday of each month for an evening of fellowship.

SALMON SUPPER



On the Men's Club agenda for the fall is the annual Salmon Supper to be held on Sunday, October 19th with two sittings, 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. The proceeds of this special event will help support the church financially. All members of the church are invited to help. Please reserve the date as workers will be needed. Please come forward and we will find a spot for you. For those who are making homemade pickles, it would be appreciated if you could donate some to add a special touch to the supper.

THE NMUC QUILTERS



Exciting news!! We have a beautiful new room with easy access in our new addition. We always welcome new quilters or those interested in learning to quilt. We meet on Wednesday afternoons from 1-4 pm, beginning mid to late September when the expansion work has been completed. We will keep you posted in the Sunday bulletins. Contact Sandra Cook at 208-0628 for more information.

CONGRATULATIONS



~ to Minnie Foss for winning a 3rd place ribbon in the NB EX Quilt Display!

~ to Cecil and Carol Charters on the arrival on June 1st of Micah James Fowler, their 7th great grandchild.

Micah lives in Tracy with parents Amy and Rudi and brothers Robin and Clark.

OUR DAILY BREAD



The Daily Bread booklets have long been available at our church. These little booklets are a wonderful way to make prayer a part of each day and contain information and reflections that are spiritual and helpful in living our daily lives.

These booklets are provided to us free of charge. A free will donation would be appreciated and can be placed in the container provided. The donations are sent to RBC Ministries Canada to assist with the cost of publication and distribution of 'Our Daily Bread'.

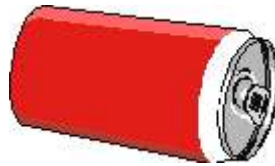
You will find the booklets and container at the front door of our church. Following the completion of our renovations they will be available in the reception area just outside the sanctuary.

HATS OFF !



- to The Accessibility Committee – Chair Sheila Penney, Jim Merrill, Allen Parlee, David Ward, and Dorothy Webster, and their consultants Doug Watson and John St. Pierre - for their tireless efforts!

THANK YOU



On behalf of The Fredericton Chapter of Muscular Dystrophy Canada, Allen Parlee is proud to announce that 1M tabs have been collected in 2014 and a 2015 collection has already begun. Thank you to everyone from New Maryland United Church who have contributed to this mission. We look forward to your on-going support for 2015. This year we will try to reach the 5 million mark!

AN ARCHIVAL MOMENT



1886: The Sewing Circle ladies paid for various items towards the cost of the New Maryland Kirk building materials. The money was raised from Pie Socials, Tea Meetings, a Rainbow Social and donations.

FROM THE CHOIR LOFT



The NMUC choir welcomes everyone back from an eventful summer of hot muggy weather and the windy destructive Arthur. We hope that you are rested and invigorated for the fall season! Choir practice is held at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday morning. New members are always welcome. Come and make a joyous noise with us!

PAR



The Committee of Stewards would like to remind the congregation that the church needs continued support in order to meet its financial commitments. By using PAR (pre-authorized remittance), you can be assured that your weekly offering will be received by the church even when you are absent from a service. If interested, please contact Lloyd Penney, our church Treasurer.

FROM THE GREEN COMMITTEE



The News Is Not All Bad.....still, we must be cautious!

Nowadays we hear so many threatening warnings about climate change and we should take heed, but it is comforting to hear news of people and communities taking action on this problem.

Some of Canada's cities are taking the lead and the results will be improved air quality, protection of natural spaces and greater economic efficiency.

Calgary, a place often seen as the "culprit" because it is the centre of our gas and oil sector, has, in just seven years, cut emissions from operations almost 50% through innovative partnerships with energy companies. The cost savings from reduced energy use pay for the city's investments.

Edmonton was one of the first cities to do something about waste management. In 2000, it established one of the first municipal composting programmes. Its facility is one of the largest in North America. It takes in organic waste from households and also processes sewerage sludge from the waste treatment plant. Along with its recycling programme, Edmonton keeps up to 60% of municipal waste out of landfills and is planning to increase that to 90%.

How do all these programmes help with climate change? By diverting waste away from landfills, it reduces emissions of methane, a greenhouse gas much more potent than carbon dioxide.

Guelph aims to reduce 25% of its total energy needs with locally sourced renewable energy. As a result of this project, the manufacturing sector has boomed, attracting solar energy plants to Guelph and outlying areas.

Vancouver has the lowest greenhouse gas emissions of any major North American city. This is being achieved by their low-carbon hydroelectric power, smart urban planning decisions and encouraging active transportation such as walking, biking and public transit. Almost half of city trips are made without a car.

Fredericton, as well, has been doing their part to utilize greenhouse gases from the Fredericton landfill. The Fredericton area puts over 90,000 metric tonnes of garbage in the landfill each year. As it decomposes, we know it produces enormous amounts of methane. Through a system called "Landfill Gas Management System" (LGMS), these gases are burned off at a rate of more than 99% with no visible flare or residue. This process paid immediate dividends, removing up to 60,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases from the air per year. Then came Phase II, instead of burning the gases the air, the gases are put through an engine which produces power which is then placed on NB Power grid for use in New Brunswick homes and businesses providing enough energy to power approximately 2,000 homes in Greater Fredericton Area.

(Excerpts and Info: David Suzuki Foundation, Fredericton Regional Solid Waste Commission)

OUTREACH



Did you know?

~ on the 3rd Monday of each month two people from NMUC volunteer at Christ Church Cathedral to offer sandwiches and fellowship.

~ on the 4th Saturday of each month three people from NMUC volunteer at the Fredericton Community Kitchen to prepare and serve lunch for the clients.

FOOD BANK



Thanks to all those who help to fill our Food Bank basket in the church entrance. For the month of September we will focus on juice boxes or items for school lunches. However, as always, everything is deeply appreciated. As well, donations of egg cartons and clean plastic bags are always needed.

NMUC WEBSITE



Have you checked our website lately at <www.newmarylandunited.ca>?

Appreciation to Garth Caseley for keeping our website up-to-date!



INTRODUCING MARG FRENETTE

Hi, I'm Margaret Albertine Frenette, born on the Island of Grand Manan on March 15, 1936 to Phyllis and Sumner Zwicker. I was the second of three girls, Patricia, Margaret and Paula. Then eleven years later, the family was blessed with a boy, Daniel.

As youngsters, we had considerable freedom because everyone looked after the children. More than once, I can remember an older person telling me ".... get away from there or I will tell your father!" Of course, I always complied!

One of my favorite activities was going "gulls egging" on one of the outer islands on the Victoria Day long weekend in May. Gulls build their nests on the ground so are easily accessible. We were not to pick from any nest that contained three eggs because that usually meant that at least one egg already had a baby chick in it. There is nothing like hard boiled gulls eggs with home-made butter, salt and pepper and home-made bread for supper! Doesn't that just make your mouth water?

Church was an important part of our upbringing. I was brought up Baptist. There were three services each Sunday; a regular service at 11:00AM, Sunday School at 2:30 PM and Prayer Meeting at 7:30 PM. As we got older, my two sisters and I took turns cleaning the church on Saturday afternoons. We also had the responsibility of ringing the church bell at fifteen minute intervals before each service. There was a Reformed Baptist church beside the Baptist. The story goes that one warm summer night someone was standing outside the two churches. As he listened he noted that one church was singing "Will There Be Any Stars in My Crown?" while the other church was singing "No, Not One"!

We usually had patient Sunday School teachers, but one I remember especially made dozens of cream puffs for our annual church picnic and for our class picnic. We went with her and her husband, on his herring boat, to Machias or Lubec, Maine, and enjoyed a hearty fish chowder and home-made rolls for lunch.

I attended a three-room school, each room having three grades with two to three people in a seat. One primary teacher, Miss Brown was strict and did not use her thick ruler sparingly, particularly on one disruptive boy! He always wore a leather jacket and wisely so, as on more than one of his boisterous moments, Miss Brown would whack him across the back with her trusty ruler. But he was not to be deterred; he became a teacher and eventually a school principal. By the time I reached Grade 8, the new Grand Manan Regional High School was open. This changed the structure and social atmosphere of the Island becoming acquainted with students and others from "up the island".

I attended Teachers' College, taking the two year Home Economics course. The second year, because of a shortage of Home Ec. Teachers, I attended school two days a week and taught at Lawrence Station three days a week. I then taught at Centreville, married and moved to Cleveland, Ohio, for a year, then to Montreal for a few years, to Fredericton, to Halifax then back to Fredericton.

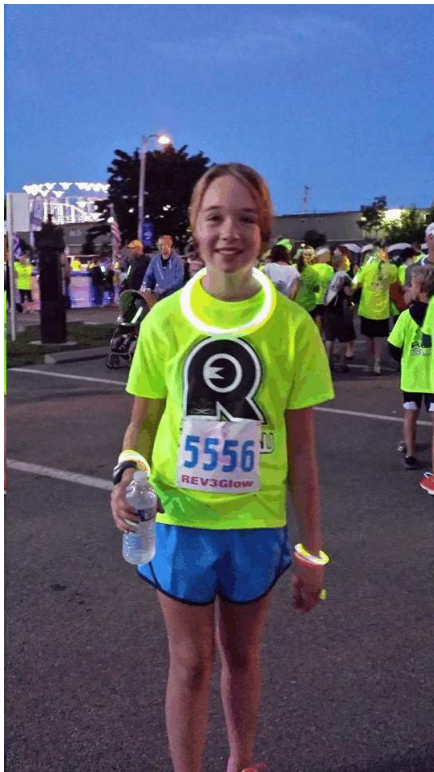
On returning here, I attended St. Thomas and earned my BA. By this time I had become a loyal United Church person, attending St. Paul's, active in UCW and was a CGIT leader. In the community, I volunteered with the John Howard Society and was the administrator at a local Group Home for young Offenders. I responded to an ad from the Correctional Service of Canada for a Project Co-ordinator, investigating the possibility of setting up a transportation system for inmates' families to make monthly visits to their family members in the federal system (Dorchester, Springhill, NS, and occasionally Atlantic Institution). I continued as a volunteer driver for 15 years.

This led to my second project with CSC which was to assist parolees and ex-offenders find employment. The project was funded through the Federal government but had to be sponsored by a non-profit organization. St. Paul's sponsored me, but my office was in the CSC Parole office. I retired about 12 years ago.

My son lives in BC; he has two sons and a granddaughter. I have one daughter here in Fredericton; she has two sons and I have a daughter who works in Saint John. She has a son and a daughter.

I have been a member of New Maryland United Church for about 14 years. I have been on Session, Chair of M&P and am still a member of that Committee, and presently, the Chair of the Green Committee. I joined the Choir 8 or 9 years ago. When I told my mother I had joined the Choir, she was very surprised and responded with, "I've always believed in the saying that 'It's never too late!'"

NEWS FLASH!



Brooke-Lyn Power entered her first 5 K run on Sept 1st in the Glow Run at Old Orchard Beach, Maine. What an accomplishment! And Dad Tom Power competed in the Lobsterman Triathlon in Freeport last weekend – congrats to one sporty family!

LOOKING AHEAD



Sunday School Opening: Sept. 14th

Upcoming Communion Dates: (Session Members to serve)

October 5, 2014: World Communion Sunday

November 23, 2014: Anniversary Sunday

December 21, 2014: Advent 4

December 24, 10 pm: Christmas Eve

A PARTING THOUGHT



Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see a shadow.

Helen Keller